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NOTES

RECENT SCANDINAVIAN PUBLICATIONS.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS.

Axel Olrik is preparing an article on primitive conceptions of the end of the world among different peoples and their connection with Northern belief. The article will appear as Part II of Olrik's study on "Ragnarok", Part I of which was published in *Arbøger for nordisk Oldkyndighed* in 1902. A German translation of both articles by G. W. Ranisch will appear later.

During the academic year 1910-1911 Axel Olrik conducted a lecture course at the University of Copenhagen upon the history of Danish literature with special reference to the pagan poetry and the work of Saxo and his contemporaries. Of the material thus presented for the first time there has so far been published an article on Arnold the Icelander, in *Nordisk Tidsskrift*, 1911, which shows how the practice of saga telling was introduced from Norway and Iceland into Denmark.

Danske Viser fra Adelsviser og Flyveblade 1550-1630 is the title of an important contribution to Danish ballad literature at present in the process of publication. The author is H. Grüner Nielsen, Copenhagen; the first volume embracing the historical ballads has recently been issued (1912). The work will be in three volumes; one of the two remaining volumes is to present the lyrical ballads and the other the narrative ballads. The work is, in a way, a continuation of *Danmarks Gamle Folkeviser*, of which the current volume is the VIIth of the main series. Of the latter a new number has just been issued (September, 1912).

Das Strafrecht der Isländersagas, Leipzig, 1911, by Andreas Heusler is a valuable investigation of legal elements in the sagas showing how they are in some respects more archaic than the written *Gragás*. From this Heusler deduces the conclusion that the Icelandic family sagas are reliable as cultural-historical documents. We would also call attention to Heusler's *Zum isländischen Fehdewesen*, Berlin, 1912, published in the *Abhandlungen der königlichen preussischen Akademie*.

Dr. William Ranisch in Osnabrück spent the summer of 1911 in Copenhagen and Christiania preparing an edition of the Feroese ballads of Sigurd Fafnesbane, and other Scandinavian ballads.

There has appeared one number of Jakob Jakobsen's *The Life of Poul Nolsö, the Feroese Poet and Patriot*, which is to include an edition of Nolsö's poetry written in old ballad style.

A memorial edition of Asbjörnson and Moe is being published under the title *Norske Folke- og Huldreeventyr*, edited by Moltke Moe. The work contains a number of excellent reproductions of well-known illustrations by Norwegian artists. So far five numbers have been issued.

A school edition of Norwegian ballads by Moltke Moe assisted by Knut Liestøl has recently been issued. The work contains a most excellent introduction on popular poetry in general by M. Moe. Dr. Liestøl has been appointed Docent in Norwegian languages and literature in Christiania University, the chair to include dialects and popular traditions.

Utsyn yver gamall norsk Folkevisediktning ved Leiv Heggstad og H. Grüner Nielsen, Kristiania, 1912, forms a brief synoptical anthology of Norwegian ballads. Summaries of the contents of 195 ballads is offered grouped as follows: I, Trollvisor (48), II, Heilagvisor (12), III, Kjempevisor (16), IV, Riddarvisor (102) and V, Sogevisor (17). The bibliographies attached to each number enhance greatly the value of the excellent little volume.

In *Lokes mytiska Ursprung*, reprinted from the Upsala Universitets Årsskrift, 1911, the author, Dr. Hugo Celander, Gothenburg, maintains the chthonic origin of Loki. Another paper upon the much vexed question of Loki's origin appears in *Festkrift til Feilberg*, 1912, and is by Axel Olrik. Olrik here develops a new theory according to which Loki is especially a contamination of an "Odin-Loki" and a "Thor-Loki" and a primitive creator of the Prometheus type as the presumable prototype.

Finnur Jonsson's great work *Den norsk-islandske Skjaldeddedigtning*, in two volumes, comprising the scaldic poetry down to the year 1200, is now completed and published (1912). The edition has been prepared for the Arnarnaganean Commission and makes two volumes of about 700 pages each, of which the first contains the manuscript texts and variants, the other the restored text. This is a definitive edition of the poetry of the scalds by the leading living authority upon that subject, a work which no student of Old Norse literature can afford to be without.

There is soon to be issued a new edition of Adolf Noreen's *Abriß der altnordischen Grammatik* and of the same author's *Geschichte der altnorwegischen und altisländischen Sprache*. Of Noreen's *Vårt Språk, nysvensk Grammatik i utförlig Framställning* number 18, being part 6 of volume V, has recently been issued, thus completing the volume on the meaning of words (Semology). For a fuller statement about this great work see review of Vol. I by A. L. Elmquist in *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, 1911, pp. 317-322 or review by G. T. Flom in *Modern Language Notes*, 1904, pp. 244-245.

A still more exhaustive work of quite a different nature with which Professor Noreen is at present engaged is one entitled *Ortnamnen i Älfsborgs Län*, of which ten volumes have so far appeared, another volume being now near completion. This will be followed by several volumes more upon the place-names of Älfborg. Thus this county, (region of Dalarne) in Sweden, is given a philological interpretation of all its place-names far more comprehensive than any which has yet

been undertaken for a province in any other country. The importance of the study of place-names for the history of the language and the culture of a country is recognized more and more. The significance of Noreen's work here is that it sets a standard for the conduct of this department of philological work which cannot help but become of the greatest importance for such study in Europe and America in general.

In Denmark the government has recently appropriated a sum of money with which to start a scientific investigation of Danish place-names in conformity with that of the great Swedish Committee on Place-names (*Ortnamnskomitéen*). The leaders of this work in Denmark are Dr. Marius Kristensen and Dr. Henrik Ussing. In Norway the work is represented of course by the excellent work of O. Rygh, whose *Norske Gaardnavne* is well known to many of our members. Of this work the long awaited volume on Nordre Bergenhus Amt is now about to be published.

The Danish Dialect charts made by V. Bennecke and Marius Kristensen are to be completed this year. The Introduction (by M. K.) will be important especially by reason of the wealth of new information on the history of the Danish language which it contains.

Dr. Amund B. Larson, Nordstrand, Norway, is engaged in working out a survey of the principal phonological phenomena of the dialect of Sogn as illustrated in a selected list of words, showing their varying forms for the various parishes of Sogn. This work will probably not be ready for publication for two years or thereabouts. In collaboration with Gerhard Stolz, Dr. Larson has published a work on the language of Bergen, *Bergens Bymaal, Utgit of Bymålslaget*, Kristiania, 1912. The work is based on materials gathered by Mr. Stoltz, who is a native of Bergen and has spoken the Bergen dialect since childhood, while Dr. Larson is responsible for the plan and the execution of the work, which deals in considerable detail with the pronunciation and the grammar of the dialect. Of special interest is the discussion of the vocabulary (pp. 152-234), the Bergen Norwegian being in respect of origin the most composite of all Norwegian dialects.

Dr. George T. Flom spent a part of the summer of 1910 and again 1912 in Aurland, Norway, gathering material for a study of the Aurland dialect, Part I (Introduction, Phonology, Inflexions, Phraseology, with texts in phonetic transcription) of which, will be issued during the current year. Part II, Glossary, will aim to give a fairly complete account of the lexicography of the dialect.

At the meeting of the Northern Philological and Historical Association held in Gothenburg, Sweden, August 19-21 Professor Verner Dahlerup outlined a plan for a proposed *Ordbog over det danske Sprog*. Of this work there has so far appeared a privately printed specimen number. Professor Dahlerup announces that the work on the dictionary is now so far advanced that the printing of it can proceed

rapidly. A fuller statement of the nature of the work will be printed in a later number of the Proceedings.

The third number of Jakob Jakobsen's *Etymologisk Ordbog over det norrøne Sprog på Shetland* appeared in August, 1912. Number one appeared in 1908, number two in 1910; the work will be completed by a fourth number which is now in preparation. The work is published by the Carlsberg fund and printed by Vilhelm Prior, Copenhagen. We shall elsewhere review at some length this great work on the linguistic remains of the Norse people in the Isles of Shetland.

In the last two years of his life, 1906-1907, Sophus Bugge was engaged upon a new exhaustive study of the Runic inscription of Rök Östergötland, Sweden, to be based in part on his earlier articles on the inscription and in part on more recent studies of it by other scholars. This work which remained unfinished at his death appeared in 1910 under the title: Sophus Bugge. *Der Runenstein von Rök in Östergötland, Schweden, nach dem Tode des Verfassers herausgegeben von M. Olson, unter Mitwirkung und mit Beiträgen von Axel Olrik und Erik Brate*, pp. 314. It is an interpretation of the inscription with a detailed study of its 500 runes and figures; four full-page plates of the four sides of the stone complete the work.

The latest contributions on the Rökstone are two shorter articles by Hugo Pipping, corresponding member of our Society for Finland. They are published in *Studier i nordisk Filologi*, Helsingfors, the first "Rök-studier", in 1911 and the second "Nytt om Rökstensinskriften", 1912. Especially interesting is the authors solution of the crosses on the top and the back of the stone. Space does not permit a discussion here of the technical questions involved.

The following articles on Swedish runic inscriptions by Otto von Friesen appear in recent issues of *Fornvännen*: "Hvem var Yngvarr enn viðförlí?" 1910, pp. 199-209; "Historiska runinskrifter", 1911, pp. 105-125; "Runinskrifterna på en Koppardosa funnen i Sigtuna", 1912, pp. 1-14. In the second of these which is a continuation of an article that appeared in *Fornvännen* in 1909 the author discusses the Lindbergstones in Vallentuna, Upland, and the Bjälbostone in Östergötland. Especially interesting to Germanic scholars in general will be the article on the copperbox found at Sigtuna on the banks of the Mälaren in 1911. The inscription which has 40 characters (24 of the older series + 16 of the younger) is in the nature of a versified magic incantation against theft. Von Friesen shows that it was inscribed by a Swede about 1040.

Professor Julius E. Olson's excellent edition of Ibsen's *Brand* has recently (April, 1912) been reprinted by the John Anderson Publishing Co. of Chicago, pp. LVI-349. The edition is distinguished by the care with which the text has been edited and by the excellent critical Introduction and Notes. See review of the first edition in *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, VIII, pp. 279-282.

Probably the most significant recent American contribution to European history is *Canute the Great and the Rise of Danish Imperialism During the Viking Age*, by Professor Laurence M. Larson of the University of Illinois. The volume appeared in the "Heroes of the Nations" series of G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London (pp. 375) in September, 1912; a brief announcement was printed in the *Proceedings*, p. 60, stating that the forthcoming volume was to contain a large amount of wholly new material relative to this hitherto inadequately interpreted period in English history. In fifteen chapters the author tells the story of the ancestry and the heritage of the great king, his ambition, his rise to power and his rule, the establishment of the empire of the North and the collapse of that empire. There are interesting chapters on Northern life and culture in the days of Knut and the historical runic inscriptions are made to yield valuable information on English history of the period. The style is fascinating, the illustrations are nearly all excellent and the Bibliography of sources and critical literature is valuable.

Erik Björkman's *Nordische Personennamen in England*, Halle, 1910, pp. 217, treats of another phase of Scandinavian-English relations. The work presents the whole body of those Old English personal names which by philological tests prove to be of Scandinavian origin. It is the first time that this much needed work has been undertaken and it will easily be seen that it is important historically as well as from the purely linguistic standpoint. In a brief article entitled "Engelska Ortsnamn och deras betydelse som historiska minnesmärken", published in *Nordisk Tidskrift*, 1911, pp. 552-570, Prof. Björkman emphasises the historical importance of the study of English place-names. An exhaustive investigation of *Middle-English Place-names of Scandinavian Origin* by Harold Lindkvist, Part I of which appeared in 1911, will do for the study of the place-names what Björkman has already done for the personal names. Lindkvist's work appears in the *Uppsala Universitets Årsskrift*.

Icelandica. An Annual Relating to Iceland and the Fiske Icelandic Collection in Cornell University Library has already been noted in the *Proceedings*, p. 59. During 1912 the fifth volume of this series was published, being a *Bibliography of the Mythical-Heroic Sagas*, by Halldór Hermannsson. The material covers the sagas which since Rafn have come to be known as the *Fornaldarsögur*. The bibliography of the collections of texts, translations and general works is followed by that of the individual sagas. There is an Appendix on Saxo Grammatici Gesta Danorum, the Hvenske Krönike and the spurious sagas.

The latest addition to American Scandinavian educational literature is Elmquist's *Swedish Grammar*, the Engberg Holmberg Co., Chicago, which is at present in press. The grammar which is intended for high school and University classes, will present the principles of Swedish grammar in thirty lessons with exercises and vocabularies.

The book treats the language as written by the best writers of the present day, the normalised orthography being employed. The colloquial language of conversation will be treated in a separate chapter and we assume that it is on account of the emphasis upon the language of literature that the phonology is relegated to the latter part of the book. We believe that a detailed treatment of Swedish pronunciation right in the beginning would be preferable, since the book is also intended for and will be used by those who have no previous knowledge of the language. But this is not the place for a review. The book is timely and welcome; the advance proofs indicate that it will be much superior to existing English grammars of Swedish.

A school edition of *Arnljot Gelline* with notes and a volume of historical notes and other critical material are among the recent contributions to the study of this masterpiece of Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson. The former is entitled *Arnljot Gelline, Skoleutgave* ved Johan Hertzberg med anmærkninger av adjunkt Albert Moe, p. 87 and of the latter *Om Bjørnstjerne Bjørnsons Arnljot Gelline, oversigter, historiske oplysninger og literære anmærkninger* ved J. Mørland, p. 47. They are published by Gyldendalske Boghandel, Kristiania. Both books are heartily recommended for use with advanced classes in Norwegian, the commentary by Mørland should be in the hands of every student of the work.

In *Bjørnson's Arnljot Gelline* door Prof. Dr. H. Logeman, Ghent, Belgium, which appears in *Onze Eeuw*, 1912 (also as a separate), the author makes the Norwegian-Swedish political relations in the 60's the point of departure for an interpretation of the poem. The significance of the writing of a work with a Swede as the hero at that time is brought out. The study forms a valuable contribution to Bjørnson literature, one of a number of important studies in Scandinavian literature that have come from the Netherlands in recent years.

In *Normandsforbundet* (Kristiania) for May, 1912, pp. 233-250, in an article entitled "Det norske sprogs bruk og utvikling i Amerika" Professor Flom gives an account of the use of the Norwegian language in America in its literary and its dialectal forms, and the changes each has undergone. The most significant contribution of the article is that it shows that whereas literary Norwegian (Riksmål) is East Norwegian, American literary Norwegian is West Norwegian in character.

The second, third, and fourth volume of Wilhelm Grönbech's monumental work: *Vor Folkeat i Oldtiden* (V. Pios Boghandel, Copenhagen) appeared during 1912. Vol. I, *Lykkemand og Niding*, appeared in 1909 and has been reviewed extensively; see one by Dr. Lee M. Hollander in *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, 1910, pp. 269-278, or by Gustaf Cederschiöld in *Arkiv för nordisk Filologi*, 1911, pp. 296-299. The present writer believes that Grönbech has in this first work very much overemphasized the motif of revenge in the life of the ancient Teutonic peoples. Vol. II, *Midgård og Manneskelivet*, Vol. III,

Hellighed og Helligdom, and Vol. IV, *Menneskelivet og Guderne* we shall review elsewhere.

Knut Stjerna: *Archæological Essays on Questions connected with the Poem of Beowulf*, translated and edited by John R. Clark Hall, has just been issued as Vol. III in the Extra Series of the Viking Club. The English editor has collected the scattered papers of the gifted young Swedish archeologist dealing with the material things of the English epic and published them in a handsome edition with many beautiful illustrations. Stjerna held that Beowulf was composed in the North. Upon this point Dr. Sydow, Gothenburg, has arrived at a wholly different conclusion, namely that the whole of the Beowulf is English as to place of origin, but that it contains numerous Celtic elements.

M. C. Gertz has completed his edition of *Vitæ Sanctorum Danorum*. In a University publication in 1907, "Knut den helliges Martyr-historie" he had shown that the oldest work, a short Tabula of King Knut's Sanctuary is written by an Englishman who went so far as to use English forms of the names for the Danish warriors who found their death with their martyred king.

Innledning i Rettsstudiet ved Nikolaus Gjelsvik, Oslo, 1912. Det norske Samlaget, is an introduction to the study of law. Though the work lies outside the field of interest of our Society it is noted here because of the masterly style of landsmaal in which it is written.

Hjalmar Thuren, who died last January in Copenhagen at the age of thirty-seven, was best known as the author of an excellent work on *The Folksong of the Faeroe Islands*, Copenhagen, 1908, *Folklore Fellow Publications* No. 2 (review by Dr. C. A. Williams in *The Journal of English and Germanic Philology*, 1910, pp. 267-269). The ballad melodies, which Thuren gathered partly by the use of a phonograph during a long stay in the islands, are here published with an excellent commentary on folksong and folkdances in general. Thuren's last work (1911) was an edition of Eskimo melodies from Greenland in which he collaborated with Wm. Thalbitzer, the work being based on Thalbitzer's phonographical collections in Anunasolik. This work forms the first scientific investigation of Eskimo music.

Old-Lore Miscellany, Vol. V (in four parts), which has been issued during 1912, contains further notes and short articles on the folk-lore, the dialects and the place-names of Orkney, Shetland, Caithness and Sutherland. There is a discussion of "Orkney Surnames", pp. 28-33, 63-67, by J. Storer Clouston, Shetland Folk-Lore—Further Tales, 16-20, continuation from Vol. IV, by Gilbert Goudie, "An Orkney Township in the Olden Time" with Glossary, pp. 67-72, continued from Vol. IV by John Spence, "Four Shetland Airs" by A. W. Johnston, "Some Old-Time Shetlandic Customs", by John Nicolson, "The Sword-Dance", Papa Stour, Shetland, pp. 175-185 by A. W. Johnston, notes on Sutherland and Caithness surnames, genealogical matter, etc., etc.

The Gøngu-Hrólfs saga. A Study in Old Norse Philology is the title of a work by Dr. Jacob W. Hartmann recently (1912) issued from the Columbia University Press. It appears as the fourteenth volume in *The Columbia University Germanic Studies*, which series contains two earlier studies on Norse subjects. Dr. Hartmann first discusses the origin and the general character of the *Fornaldarsögur* (chapter I), which is followed by chapters on the Mss. of the *Gøngu-Hrólfs saga*, the sources and materials of the saga, Gøngu-Hrólfr as an historical character, the geography of the saga, the *Gøngu-Hrólfs-rimur*, appendices on the vocabulary and style of the saga and comparison of parallel passages in the *Gøngu-Hrólfs saga* and the *Knytlingasaga*. The chapter on sources is hardly adequate, otherwise the study is painstaking and appreciative and will be a welcome addition to the literature on the Fornaldarsögur.

In "Nabosprog og Grænsedialekter", *Videnskapselskapets Skrifter*, II, *Hist.-Filos. Klasse*, 1911, No. 4, Kristiania, also issued as a separate, pp. 18, Prof. Dr. John Storm deals with some fundamental questions on the theory of contiguous dialects and inter-dialectal and inter-linguistic loans in border territory. For Norwegian linguistic history the question of Swedish and Danish influence upon the border dialects, and indeed upon Riksmåal pronunciation as well as forms is involved. That the voiced stops *b, d, g* in certain southwest Norwegian dialects represents influence from a *Gjenbosprog*, Danish in this case, the present writer does not believe, but the author's contribution will be read with interest and profit by students of this phase of language.

Prof. Magnus Olsen, University of Christiania, offers a most valuable and very interestingly written study in Norwegian place-names in a recent volume entitled *Stedsnavnestudier*, published by H. Aschehoug & Co., Kria, 1912 (pp. 130). The author discusses in chapter I certain names which have parallels in runic inscriptions, in chapter II takes in place-names. Among the names that are treated in the following chapters are *Amle, Hurum, Solør, Valdres, Lærdal, Øraker* and *Fitzung*, which last name is discussed (pp. 63-76) in connection with *Hávamál*, 78.

Altnordische Namenstudien (*Acta Germanica*, Neue Reihe, I) by Hans Naumann, Berlin, 1912, pp. 194 aims to offer a survey of Old Norse names in their relation to Germanic names in general. "Das so oft ersehnte altnordische Namenbuch sollte natürlich damit noch nicht geliefert werden, wohl aber ein Beitrag zur Vorbereitung für dies und für das gleichfalls noch zu schreibende germanische Namenbuch" (Vorwort, 1). Arranged alphabetically under the themes, or stems represented in the names the author lists the occurrences of 132 general Germanic themes, pp. 10-76; 167 Old Norse-West Gmc. themes, pp. 77-117; 195 exclusively North-Gmc. themes, pp. 117-133; and 30 East Scandinavian themes lacking in Old Norse. Then follows a discussion of O. N. diminutives, foreign names in O. N., geographical

differences as between Icelandic, Norwegian, Danish and Swedish names, mythological names, and names from the heroic saga. It is a surprising result that O. N. names have more themes in common with Old German names than with Old English (p. 115) and one that would seem to be significant historically.

Another recent and very important contribution to this field of Germanics is M. Schönfeld's *Wörterbuch der altgermanischen Personen- und Völkernamen*, Heidelberg, 1911, pp. XXV + 309. The work is a critical collection of all the Gmc. names and all their occurrences down to the time of Justinian, i. e. the oldest stratum of Gmc. names in classical literature and inscriptions. The evidence of the names for old Germanic phonology, inflexions and word-formation is treated briefly in the Introduction. The extensive bibliography of critical literature is valuable and the inclusion of all "Belege" of names is a commendable idea. There is an ethnographic index and an etymological index.

Dr. Kr. Kålund has recently prepared an edition of the *Sturlungasaga for the "kongelige nordiske Oldskriftsselskab"*, and has at present in preparation an edition of the literary remains of Arne Magnussen the Icelandic founder of the arnamagnean collection. According to the plan the work which is to be published by the Carlsberg Fund will fall into four parts: 1, Embedsskrivelser til og fra Arne Magnussen (særlig fra hans ophold paa Island som kgl. kommissær 1702-1712), 2, Brevveksling (islandsk) med Torfæus, 3, Arne Magnussens øvrige brevveksling, 4, Litterære optegnelser af Arne Magnussen, biografier om ham og samtidige, og andre samtidige udtalelser angaaende ham. Dr. Kålund will also continue the editing af *Alfræði islensk* for Samfund til udgivelse af gammel nordisk Litteratur.

"Strindbergarne" is the name adopted by "a group of men in Chicago joined together for the purpose of spreading the knowledge of August Strindberg's writing, through presentations of plays by him on the stage, in English and Swedish, through translations of his works and through critical expository studies".

The members of the group meet on the third Saturday every month at luncheon or dinner; at each meeting someone should be prepared to present to the group some aspect of Strindberg's life or authorship.

The work of the group is directed by a committee consisting of a chairman, a secretary and two other members.

Persons interested in the work of the group may be invited to join it if their names have been proposed by the committee and approved by all members present at any meeting. Persons thus invited become members on payment of an initiation fee of 50 cents.

The Society numbers at present thirty-five. The President is A. G. S. Josephson, the Secretary is Werner Melinder.